

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 2 and 4-12 to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection head comprising:
  - a liquid flow path;
  - an ejection ~~outlet forming member~~ outlet-forming member, which ~~constitutes~~ comprises a part of a wall of the said liquid flow path and which forms an ejection outlet for ejecting a droplet of liquid, the ejection outlet having a recessed portion recessed from a plane in which the ejection outlet is formed;
  - a heat generating element, provided at a position opposing opposed to said the ejection ~~outlet of the wall of said liquid flow path~~, outlet, for generating a bubble in the liquid by application of heat to the liquid;
  - a restrictor portion, portion having an opening and provided at [[a]] the  
recessed portion of said the ejection outlet, wherein said recessed portion is recessed from  
a plane in which said ejection outlet is formed, wherein the liquid forms a meniscus and is retained in said the ejection outlet such that said restrictor portion is within the liquid,  
wherein an area So of an the opening of said restrictor portion and a surface area Sh of said heat generating element satisfy the following inequality:

$$So \leq Sh.$$

2. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection head comprising:
  - a liquid flow path;

an ejection outlet forming member outlet-forming member, which constitutes comprises a part of a wall of the said liquid flow path and which forms an ejection outlet for ejecting a droplet of liquid, the ejection outlet having a recessed portion recessed from a plane in which the ejection outlet is formed;

an energy generating element, provided at a position opposing opposed to said the ejection outlet of the wall of said liquid flow path, outlet, for generating ejection energy to be applied to the liquid;

a restrictor portion, portion having an opening and provided at [[a]] the recessed portion of said the ejection outlet, wherein said recessed portion is recessed from a plane in which said ejection outlet is formed, wherein the liquid forms a meniscus and is retained in said the ejection outlet such that said restrictor portion is within the liquid,

wherein a thickness c of said restrictor portion and a height e of said liquid flow path measured in a direction in which said the ejection outlet and said energy generating element are faced to face each other, satisfy the following inequality:

$$c \leq e.$$

3. (Original) A liquid ejection head according to Claim 2, wherein said energy generating element is a heat generating element.

4. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection head according to Claim 2, wherein an area So of ~~an~~ the opening of said restrictor portion and a surface area Sh of said heat generating element satisfy the following inequality:

$$So \leq Sh.$$

5. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection head comprising:  
a liquid flow path;  
an ejection ~~outlet forming member~~ outlet-forming member, which constitutes comprises a part of a wall of ~~the~~ said liquid flow path and which forms an ejection outlet for ejecting a droplet of liquid, the ejection outlet having a recessed portion recessed from a plane in which the ejection outlet is formed;  
an energy generating element, provided at a position opposing opposed to said the ejection ~~outlet of the wall of said liquid flow path~~, outlet, for generating ejection energy to be applied to the liquid;  
a restrictor portion, portion having an opening and provided at [[a]] the recessed portion of said the ejection outlet, wherein said recessed portion is recessed from a plane in which said ejection outlet is formed, wherein the liquid forms a meniscus and is retained in said the ejection outlet such that said restrictor portion is within the liquid, wherein a thickness c of said restrictor portion and a thickness d of said ejection ~~outlet forming member~~ outlet-forming member, measured between a plane in which said the ejection outlet is formed and a plane of said restrictor portion, satisfy the

following inequality:

$$c \leq d.$$

6. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection head according to Claim 1, 2 or 5, wherein said restrictor portion is disposed in a middle in a direction of a thickness of said ejection ~~outlet forming~~ outlet-forming member.

7. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection head according to Claim 1, 2 or 5 wherein a diameter of the opening of said restrictor portion changes along a direction of ejection of the liquid through ~~said~~ the ejection outlet.

8. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection head according to Claim 1, 2 or 5, wherein ~~said restrictor portion has~~ the opening including of said restrictor portion includes a plurality of fine bores.

9. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection head according to Claim 1, 2 or 5, wherein the liquid is a recording liquid usable ~~with~~ for ink jet recording.

10. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection head according to Claim 1, 2 or 5, wherein the liquid is a medicine to be inhaled into a lung.

11. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection head according to Claim 5,  
wherein an area So of ~~an~~ the opening of said restrictor portion and a surface area Sh of said  
heat generating clement satisfy the following inequality:

$$So \leq Sh.$$

12. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection head according to Claim 5 or  
11, wherein a height e of said liquid flow path measured in a direction in which ~~said the~~  
ejection outlet and said energy generating element ~~are faced to~~ face each other, ~~satisfy~~  
satisfies the following inequality:

$$c \leq e.$$